

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The specification is amended to include section headings.

Claims 12-21 were pending in the application. New claims 22 and 23 are added. Therefore, claims 12-23 are presented for consideration.

Claims 12-21 are amended to provide proper antecedent basis for each of the elements noted on pages 2 and 3 of the Official Action. Such amendment is believed to address the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of that rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-14 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by HEINGARTNER et al. 6,553,803. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 12 recites among other features a step of measuring a pressure variation between measured pressure values of at least two flows of compressed air during a bending step.

Measuring pressure variation is a pressure measurement between two air flows so as to measure a difference of pressure between the two air flows.

In contrast, the pressure detectors of HEINGARTNER are each located on a channel (line) so as to measure the pressure on

each respective line. HEINGARTNER does not disclose measuring a pressure variation between measured pressure values of at least two flows of compressed air as recited in claim 12.

Claims 13-20 depend from claim 12 and further define invention and are believed patentable over HEINGARTNER at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

Claims 15-19 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over HEINGARTNER et al. in view of SARTORIO et al. 5,148,693. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

SARTORIO is cited with respect to features of dependent claim 15-19. SARTORIO does not overcome the shortcomings of HEINGARTNER set forth above with respect to claim 12. Since claims 15-19 depend from claim 12 and further define the invention, these claims are believed patentable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

In addition, these claims include features that are not disclosed by the proposed combination of references.

For example, claim 15 recites that the pressure variation measured between at least two air flows is performed with a differential pressure transducer. The differential pressure sensor 69 of SARTORIO is located on each compressed air conduit leading to pneumatic gauges 50-53. As these devices of SARTORIO detect the change in pressure on each line, SARTORIO fails to disclose measuring a pressure variation between two air flows are recited in claim 15.

Claim 17 recites that a servo-controlled device detects variations in a bending angle by being in a position corresponding to a provided angle and measured pressure difference. Both SARTORIO and HEINGARTNER fail to disclose a servo-controlled device that is used to measure (or detect) the bending angle as recited in claim 17.

Accordingly, at least claims 15 and 17 are believed patentable regardless of the patentability of the claims from which they depend.

Independent device claim 21 recites in part a compressed air system having a supply line provided with a system pressure reducer. In HEINGARTNER, the pressure measuring apparatus 6 is directly connected to the pump (compressed air source). HEINGARTNER does not disclose a supply line having a system pressure reducer as recited. SARTORIO also fails to disclose this feature.

Claim 21 further recites measurement of a bending angle is performed by connecting a first pair of two pair of orifices which are external to a matrix die slot and a second pair of two orifices which are internal to the matrix die slot.

By way of example, Figure 1 of the present application shows orifice 5 external to die slot 10 and orifice 10 internal to the die slot 10.

SARTORIO has each of his orifices in a slot and measures from one part of the wall to another part of the wall, while

HEINGARTNER measures each individual channel separately. See column 3, lines 24-27 of HEINGARTNER.

Such two different methods of measurement on different faces of the die would not result in the presently claimed invention when the claimed invention is analyzed as a whole.

Moreover, HEINGARTNER teaches away from the proposed combination by measuring each of the channels separately. Accordingly, not only is the claimed invention non-obvious when examined as a whole, but also, would not have been obvious based on the references teaching away from the proposed combination. Therefore, claim 21 is believed patentable over the proposed combination of references.

New claims 22 and 23 are added. Claim 22 includes features of claims 12, 15 and 21 and is believed patentable over the proposed combination of references at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 12, 15 and 21. New claim 23 corresponds to claim 17 and is believed patentable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim and also for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 17.

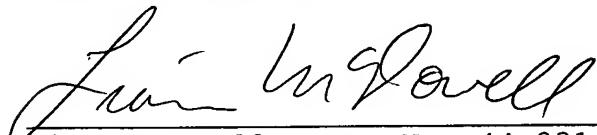
In view of the present amendment and foregoing Remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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